

REMARKS

I. The Status of Claims.

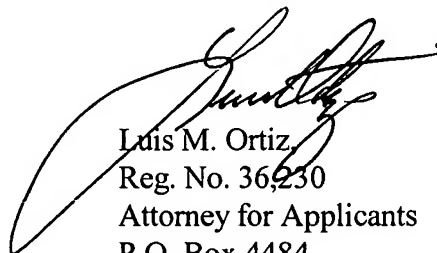
Claims 1-25 were originally presented for examination before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (the "Office") with filing of a regular patent application on March 25, 2004. In a communication received on September 12, 2005, the Patent Office required correction of Applicants' priority statement, objected to drawing figures 8A, 9A and 10A, objected to the specification discrepancies, reminded Applicants' of the need for a proper information disclosure statement, rejected claims 1-4 and 21 and being indefinite, provisionally rejected claims 5-18 and 20-22 under double patenting, and rejected claims 1-6 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102. The Examiner indicated that claims 19 and 23-25 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitation of base and intervening claims.

Applicants have amended claim 7 by incorporating subject matter of claims 19 and 11 into independent claim 7 from which claims 19 and 11 depend. Claim 23-25 were amended to depend from claim 7.

Independent claims 1 and 5 have been amended by Applicants in a manner that are now believed allowable over the cited references. Applicant now respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 21, and 23-25, which remain pending.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned representative to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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